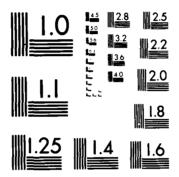
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AFGL-TR-83-0055 ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH PAPERS, NO. 826





The Far Infrared Sky Survey Experiment Final Report

STEPHAN D. PRICE THOMAS L. MURDOCK KANDIAH SHIVANANDAN

18 February 1983

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OPTICAL PHYSICS DIVISION PROJECT 7670
AIR FORCE GEOPHYSICS LABORATORY

HANSCOM AFB, MASSACHUSETTS 01731

AIR FORCE SYSTEMS COMMAND, USAF

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This technical report has been reviewed and is approved for publication.

Oka J Stan Jr.

DR. ALVA T. STAIR, Jr.

Chief Scientist

Chief Scientist

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20 ABSTRACT (Continue on reverse side if necessary and identify by block number)
Approximately 9000 square degrees of the celestial sphere was surveyed in four infrared bands with a rocket-probe-borne telescope. This Far Infrared Sky Survey Experiment (FIRSSE) covered the galactic plane between 120 d and 255 d longitude and the Orion and Taurus Molecular Clouds. A list of almost 300 bright 90 μm sources is presented along with associated measurements at 20, 27 and 40 μm . A description is given of the conduct of the experiment, the first space-borne use of super-fluid helium under active thermal loading.

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Preface

The Far Infrared Sky Survey Experiment (FIRSSE) was the first successful use of super-fluid helium as a cryogen under active thermal loading on a spaceborne experiment. This single experiment surveyed more area of sky than all the previous balloon and aircraft measurements combined. The successful performance of an experiment as complex and innovative as FIRSSE is a cooperation effort of many individuals, too numerous to be mentioned here. However, the outstanding effort of key people must be acknowledged. Eban Hiscock and Chris Krebs of the AFGL research rocket branch directed the pre-flight integration and the support. Stewart Lyons of Space Vector was responsible for the attitude control system and in-flight maneuvers. Jim Lester and Ron Pearson directed the design and construction of the sensor cryogenic system at Ball Aerospace Systems Divisions (BASD) and provided integration and field support. Special thanks to Dick Herring of BASD for his interest in the experiment, especially during the lean periods.

The focal plane and signal processing electronics were designed, built and tested by Santa Barbara Research Center under the supervision of Don Campbell, Randy Tate of NRL provided extensive assistance in the laboratory calibration and field testing of the focal plane and sensor. With able support from Paul Cucchiaro, Dave Akerstrom was the key individual for the design and construction of the ground support system, and the field support for the sensor especially for the super-fluid helium transfer. Wentworth Institute built the payload under the guidance of Ed LeBlanc. Tom Campbell and Larry Smart insured that the payload performed as designed.

Data processing was in the capable hands of Len Marcotte. Paul LeVan performed the necessary calculations for the in-flight calibration.

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The Far Infrared Sky Survey Experiment Final Report

1. INTRODUCTION

The Far Infrared Sky Survey Experiment (FIRSSE) is a joint effort between the Air Force Geophysics Laboratory (AFGL) and the Naval Research Laboratory (NRL) to survey the sky in five broad spectral bands between 8 and 120 μ m. Technical firection for the design and construction of the dewar and integration of the sensor at Ball Aerospace Systems Division and the focal plane array with signal processing electronics at the Santa Barbara Research Center was provided by beth AFGL and NRL. Payload development and fabrication was AFGL's responsibility as well as the field preparation and launch. The detailed data reduction and analysis for all detectors was done by AFGL, with NRL independently selecting long wavelength sources by visual inspection.

The flight took place on 22 January 1982 from the White Sands Missile Range.

New Mexico at 8^h00^m00. 191 GMT. The ARIES guided rocket lifted the 660-kg payload to a 379-km peak altitude for a total of 450 sec of data acquisition. The success of this experiment marks the first use of super-fluid helium and porous plug containment on a space borne experiment under dynamic external thermal loading.

During the flight about 9000 square degrees were surveyed (21 percent of the sky) with at least 80 percent overlap. The scans covered about 100° of galactic longitude along the anticenter region of the plane as well as a large area of

⁽Received for publication

Gould belt. Several hundred sources were detected in one or more of the spectral bands. The bright $100-\mu\,\mathrm{m}$ sources have a high degree of association with HII region while fainter $100-\mu\,\mathrm{m}$ emission was detected from the brighter stars and asteroids. The survey appears complete down to $100\,\mathrm{Jansky}$ (Jy) at $100\,\mu\,\mathrm{m}$.

The advantages of an exo-atmospheric infrared experiment are obvious. The atmosphere absorbs infrared radiation and is opaque at certain wavelengths; beyond $35~\mu\mathrm{m}$ for example. Elevating the observing platform by aircraft and balloon reduces this problem but structure in the thermal emission from the atmosphere limit the field of view and/or sensitivity of the measurement. Not only are atmospheric problems eliminated in space but the telescope can be cryogenically cooled to the point where self emission does not limit the sensitivity of a detector even for large fields of view.

Several early rocket-borne celestial survey experiments were attempted 1,2 with ambiguous results. The Cornell group 3,4,5 succeeded in obtaining 100- μ m measurements on several HII regions with a rocketborne instrument. These experiments used normal fluid helium as a cryogen as super-fluid could not be maintained or contained during preflight and flight conditions. Thus the 100- μ m Ge:Ga detectors were not as sensitive as the Ge bolometers later flown on balloon and aircraft. With the advent of Ge:xx, long wavelength photoconductors 6,7,8 with high frequency response and good NEP's and sintered Nickel porous plugs for superfluid containment, a rocket-borne survey instrument becomes competitive with the longer duration balloon flights in obtaining long wavelength observations $(30~\mu$ m < λ < $120~\mu$ m) at medium (10°) spatial resolution.

2. INSTRUMENTATION

The instrument and experiment have been described by Price, Murdock and Shivanandan. ⁹ We augment that description in this section and discuss the performance of the instrument. The FIRSSE optical system was built by Perkin Elmer Corporation as a demonstration of technical capability. A comparable instrument, SPICE, was also successfully flown on 15 September 1982 by AFGL as a complementary survey to that performed by the short wavelength arrays in FIRSSE.

The FIRSSE optical system (Figure 1) is a doubly folded Gregorian design and has a spherical primary 36 cm in diameter. Spherical aberration and come are corrected to first order by aspherized secondary and tertiary mirrors. The folding flat is located at the intermediate focal plane and doubles as a field stop. The f/2,4 system has a focal length of 86.4 cm. The focal plane is convex and covers a

⁽Due to the large number of references cited above, they will not be listed here. See References, page 51.)

2735 field of view with a 4' incr plate scale. The linear obscuration of the second any housing is 0.48 for a total collecting area of 750 cm². The optical bench is an integrated system made of beryllium. The secondary is cantilevered by four beryllium rods which pass through the primary mirror and are attached to the optics support fixture.

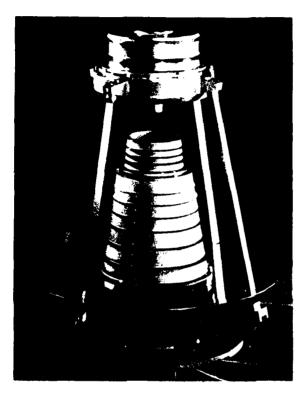


Figure 1. The FIRSSE Optical Bench

The focal plane (Figures 2 and 3) is modular in design. The modulantial housing and array supports are made of benyllium for thermal compatibility with the optical system. Two thin film resistors are mounted above the focal plane, one each on either side. These resistors are heated by a precisely controlled voltage, flooding the focal plane with thermal photons and stimulating the detectors as a check on their working status. The equal intensity effective wavelength and bandwidth together with measured NEFD and other pertinent data are listed in Table 1 for each of the five arrays. Measurements at the Naval Oceans System Center 10 on the filter-detector combinations provide the values in the first four bands.

NOSC (1980) Test Data on SBRC FIRSSE Focal Plane Array, Infrared Devices Branch, Electronic Materials Sciences Division, Naval Oceans Systems Center, San Diego, CA 92152, May 1980.

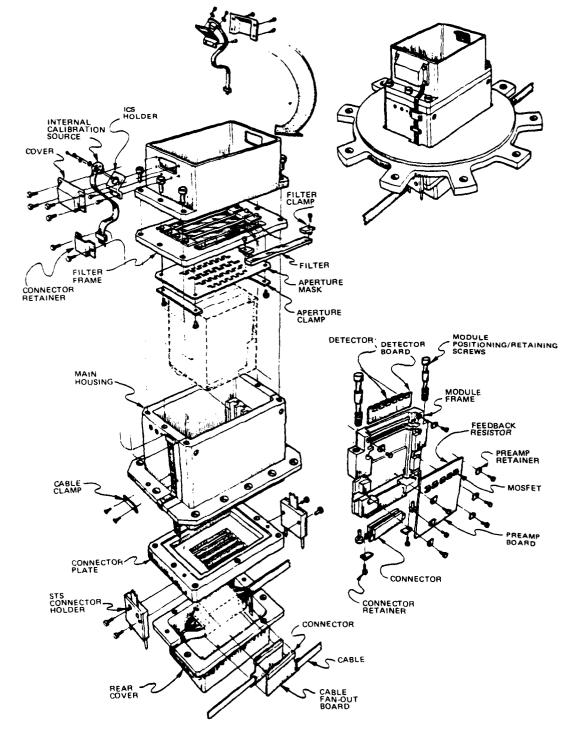


Figure 2. An Exploded View of the FIRSSE Focal Plane

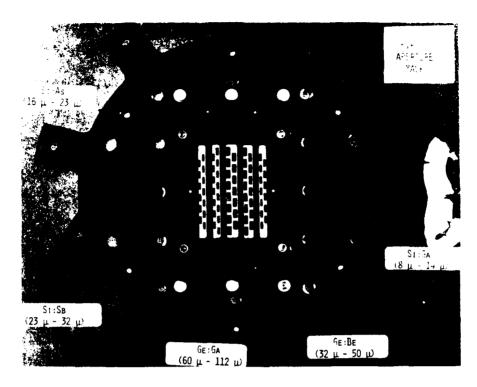


Figure 3. Face-on View of the FIRSSE Focal Plane Showing the Aperture Mask and Location of the Arrays

The Ge:Ga detector response and transmission of the $100-\mu\,\mathrm{m}$ filter were obtained by NRL and convolved for the effective wavelength and bandwidth; the NEP is from the final SBRC tests. The last column lists the NEFD determined from the in-flight calibration.

Several anomalies showed up during construction and testing of the focal plane array. The thermal conductivity of the beryllium housing is very low at temperatures of 2 to 3 °K. Consequently, self heating from the MOSFETS raised the temperature of the Ge:Ga detectors above 4.5 °K which is above their operating temperature. This problem was solved by carefully heat sinking the long wavelength arrays. The Si:xx detectors perform better at higher temperatures and the thermal isolation was retained for these arrays. In the final configuration the Ge:Ga and Ge:Be arrays ran at 2.5 °K, 0.3 K above the 2.2 °K temperature of the dewar cooling ring while the Si:xx arrays were at 5.0 °K. A minimum of spiking was observed on the silicon arrays of these temperatures under optimum biases.

The trade-off for warmer silicon array temperatures was that the load resistor values were about half $(3.5 \times 10^9 \text{ ohms})$ that of the Ge:xx arrays. Additional stray

capacitance had to be introduced into the preamplifier circuit in order to reduce the frequency of the roll-off in the f boost of the trans-impedance amplifier. This was necessary in order to prevent aliasing unwanted high frequency noise by the sampling and digitizing of the data stream by the pulse code modulator (PCM).

The focal plane array was placed into the optical system such that the two outer, short wavelength arrays were at best focus. The depth of field for the curved focal plane was sufficient to cause no degradation in the amount of energy on the larger detectors.

A cutaway of the sensor is shown in Figure 4. The instrument is cooled from a 17-liter dewar. A sintered nickel porous plug with a $10-\mu$ m pore size acts as a phase separator in the dewar vent line to contain super-fluid helium. The optics, focal plane, inner radiation shield, and background plate are conductively cooled through the inner cooling ring on the dewar. The vapor shield is cooled by vent gas from the dewar and, in turn, conductively cools the cover vapor shield. Straps of 0.99999 pure aluminum are used to provide good thermal conductivity to the focal plane, the secondary mirror and support structure, and along the inner radiation shield. The heat leak is relatively low, 0.56 W, with the focal plane contributing less than 1% to this total. The background plate in the sensor cover ran warmer, 19K, than the 15K design goal. Although the background plate is gold-plated to reduce emissivity, the photon flux at the detectors in the 70- to 120-µ m band is still high, $\sim 10^{10}$ phot. cm⁻² sec⁻¹, at this temperature. This is 1.5 to 2 orders of magnitude higher than was anticipated through the side lobe response of the instrument during flight. The biases of the Ge:Ga had to be reduced in order for them to operate at this background. Thus the average NEP derived from the SBRC data for the Ge:Ga array and listed in Table 1 were increased by roughly a factor of 2 before flight.

A specially designed 250-liter dewar and transfer system is used to fill the FIRSSE dewar with liquid helium at a temperature 2.7 to 3K just above the λ point. About two liters of helium are pumped away in cooling the instrument to 1.7 - 1.8K or 7.9 torr static vapor pressures. Hold time, defined as the time from closing the helium vent line to the time the helium in the dewar goes through the λ point transition, in excess of 100 min were achieved.

Safety considerations require that phyload personnel vacate the tower for final arming at least 30 min before launch. The helium vent is closed 55 min before launch to leave enough time to remove the vent pump, install the access panel, and remove the clean bags around the payload. The super-fluid helium is unvented until T + 90 sec when it is opened to the vacuum of space through a solenoid valve.

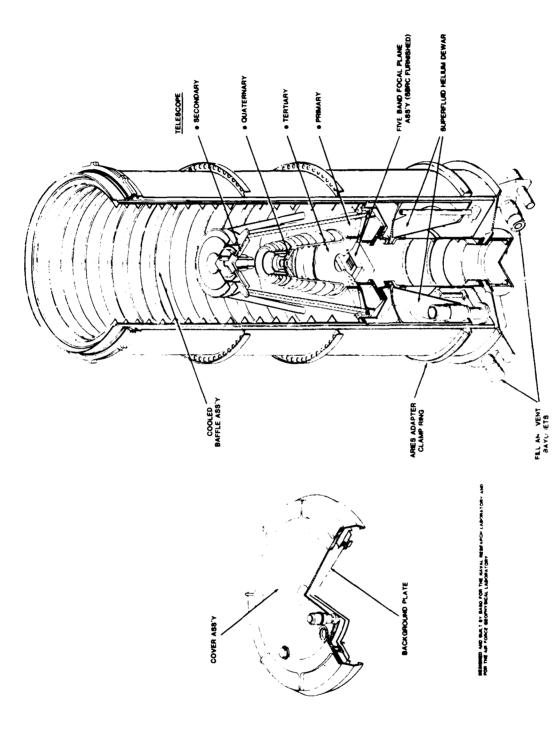


Figure 4. On away View of the FIRSEE Telescope

Table 1. System Parameters for FIRSSE

Band (50% Response)	Ď€ No.	Detectors No. Material	Size	λ _e (μη)	Δλ (μ m)	λ_e $\Delta\lambda$ NEFD Calc $(\mu m) (\mu m) \times 10^{-17} \text{ W cm}^{-2}$	$\frac{\text{In-Flight}}{\text{NEFD} \times 10^{-17} \text{ W cm}^{-2}}$	Jу
8.2 µm - 13.8 µm	13	Si:Ga	2:5 × 10' 11.2 4.5	11.2	4.5	1,5 ± 0,2		
16.7 µm - 23.4 µm	13	Si:As	$2.5 \times 10^{\prime}$	20.3	4.2	0.5 ± 0.1	2	4
23.6 µm - 30.3 µm	15	Si:Sb	$2!5 \times 10'$	27.3	4.9	0.9 ± 0.3	4	15
34 µm - 50 µm	15	Ge:Be	$4!0\times12!$	40.0	17.9	5.0 ± 0.1	40	120
65 µm - 117 µm	15	Ge:Ga	$5!3 \times 12!$	93.7	41.4	0.3 ± 0.2	2	15

3. THE EXPERIMENT

The payload is a cone/cylinder in shape, 3.9 m long and 0.9525 m in diameter. It is divided into three sections: an aspect section containing the star mapper and a BASD large lens STRAP star tracker, an instrument compartment with the telescope and payload electronics, and the attitude control system and recovery package in the nose cone. The launch configuration is shown schematically in Figure 5. Figure 6 depicts the payload during data taking.

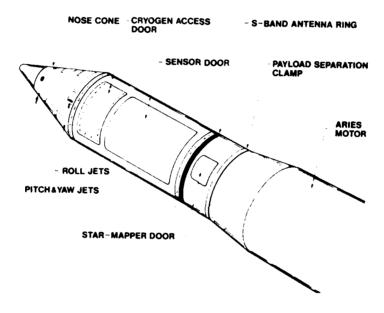


Figure 5. Launch Configuration for FIRSSE

Powered flight lasts about 62 sec. After an 18-sec coast period, manacle clamps holding the payload and vehicle together are released and a pneumatic bellows separates the two at a relative velocity of 8.75 m/sec. After separation the motor is spun about the longitudinal axis to provide dynamic stability to keep the motor nozzles pointed away from the payload. These steps are taken to prevent the optical contamination seen on other experiments ¹¹ from the smoldering

^{11.} Price, S.D., Murdock, T.L., McIntyre, A., Huffman, R.E., and Paulsen, D.E. (1980) On the diffuse cosmic ultraviolet background measured from ARIES A-8, Astrophys. J. Letters, 240:L.

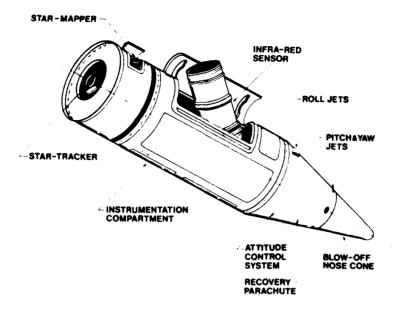


Figure 6. Configuration of FIRSSE During Data Acquisition

residual fuel and butyl rubber liner in the spent motor. The payload is cleaned during the preflight preparation as described by Price, Cunniff and Walker 12 to eliminate optical contamination by dust and other particles.

After separation the pavload is pitched over 180° and maneuvered to bring the optical axis of the star tracker to the direction of a star. The launch time and star are selected such that the star is at meridian transit near the zenith. This choice produces the least off-axis radiation into the telescope from the earth. During preflight alignment ¹³ the null position of the optical axis of the tracker was accurately co-aligned with the geometric roll axis of the payload. The payload was spin balanced to bring the dynamic roll axis into near coincidence with the geometric roll axis. Once the star is acquired in the tracker 6° field-of-view, control of the pitch and yaw jets is transferred to the tracker. Error signals due to deviations of the star from tracker null are used by the attitude control system to drive the payload roll axis to the coordinates of the star and to maintain that position throughout the flight.

^{12.} Price, S.D., Cuniff, C.V., and Walker, R.W. (1978) Cleanliness Consideration for the AFGL Infrared Celestial Survey Experiments, AFGL-TR-78-0171, AD 4060116.

Price, S. D., Akerstrom, D. A., Cunniff, C. V., Marcotte, L. P., Tandy, P. C., and Walker, R.G. (1978) <u>Aspect Determination for the AFGL Infrared</u> Celestial Survey Experiments, <u>AFGL-TR-78-0253</u>, <u>AD A067017</u>.

The star mapper, star tracker, and payload doors are unlatched and opened during the pitchover maneuver. The sensor cover is removed and the telescope deployed while the star tracker acquires the star. The payload is spun about the roll axis causing the sensor focal plane to sweep out a band along a small circle centered on the pole star one focal plane array high as shown in Figure 7. The zenith angle is stepped 2.14 at the completion of a 382.5 roll. The roll rate is changed during each step to compensate for the cosecant z distortion in the scan geometry, and to maintain a constant linear scan rate of $20^{\circ}/\text{sec}$. Maximum deployment of 71.5 occurs near peak altitude when the earth's horizon is at the maximum depression angle of 19°. The sensor is subsequently stepped up during the down leg portion of the flight. This profile results in the largest areal coverage for a given constraint due to the off-axis performance of the telescope.

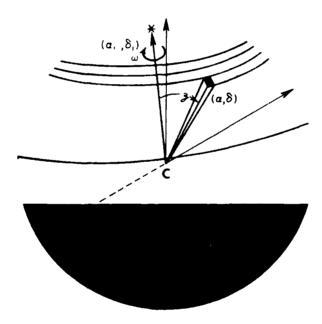


Figure 7. The Survey Scan Pattern. The pole rotation is fixed to a star with celestial coordinates $(\alpha_1,\ \delta_1).$ The payload is rotated at an an angular rate, $\omega,$ and the sensor deployed to a zenith angle z. Bottom scan line represents the maximum deployment consistent with OAR constraints. The shaded area at the bottom is section of sky obscured by the earth during the experiment. Shaded area around the south pole is the sky unreachable from White Sands Missile Range

As shown in Figure 7, the pole of rotation is accurately fixed to the intertial coordinates of the star. The sensor deployment gimbal is orthogonal to the roll axis. A 13-bit shaft encoder reads the deployment angle to 1' accuracy. The geometry is an alt-azimuth system with the star at the pole. Azimuth is determined by stellar transits observed by a small visual photometer through an "N" slit reticle mask. Azimuth reference was carefully aligned during preflight integration to the deployment plane of the telescope.

At the end of the flight, the telescope is stowed, the cap replaced and the doors closed to protect the various sensors from re-entry heating. The parachute deployment is activated at an altitude of 3 km by a barometer switch. The payload was recovered in excellent condition.

4. IN-FLIGHT PERFORMANCE

All detectors worked well during flight except those at $11 \, \mu \, \text{m}$. A bias short to shield ground on the focal plane connector to the $11 \, \mu \, \text{m}$ array resulted in no observations at this wavelength. The measurements made with the Ge:xx arrays were degraded for about half the flight as explained below.

The temperature profiles for the various monitors in the sensor are shown in Figures 8, 9 and 10. The location of these monitors are defined in the figure legends.

All temperature monitors are nominal until the cover is removed. A thermal pulse of about 40 W from the payload structure is seen by the instrument as the cap is removed and the sensor deployed at about 96 secs. This pulse raises temperatures throughout the telescope. About 8 W of aperture loading is experienced at the first deployment angle. This is almost equally divided between contributions from the payload and earth. As the deployment angle of the telescope increases the contribution from the earth dominates, peaking to 11 W at maximum deployment. The thermal loading profile reverses as the telescope is stepped up. This profile is best reflected by the aperture temperature shown in Figure 8. This monitor is located at the front end of the inner radiation shield and is most sensitive to external thermal input. The small amplitude eyelic structure reflects the change in solid angle subtended by the earth during a roll due to the pole star not being at local zenith.

Blade No. 2 is located about 4 cm down from the front aperture on the outside of the second baffle blade. The temperature profile for this monitor mirrors that of the aperture but with smaller amplitude and considerable smoothing. This temperature difference is primarily due to the fact that the baffle blades are more directly coupled to the cooling ring through 0. 19900 pure aluminum straps than the

radiation shield. The baffle blades and radiation shield are tied to the primary mirror and helium tank at the same point. The relative stability of the blade No. 2 temperature from 100 to 160 sec is probably caused by the primary mirror absorbing some of the heat and warming up.

A more disastrous consequence of this thermal loading is that the focal plane warms up, as profiled in Figure 9. The temperature monitor for the focal plane is located in the middle of the Ge:Ga array. The variation generally correlates with the helium tank monitor on the cooling ring. The focal plane is strapped to the ring at four points and therefore averages the temperature variations around the ring. The helium tank monitor is sensitive to a localized change of temperature on the cooling ring. The variations probably indicate how well the super-fluid helium wets the tank nearest the monitor.

These profiles can be explained as follows: the aperture loading changes from 8 to 11 W during the flight and is primarily due to the earth. This heat is put into the helium dewar at or very near the cooling ring with some of the load taken up by the thermal inertia of the optics. The heat causes local instabilities in the superfluid helium wetting the walls nearest to the cooling ring. As the super-fluid is driven away from a specific area on the tank that area warms then subsequently cools when the super-fluid again wets that locale on the dewar. The four cooling straps to the focal plane average these local variations. Unfortunately, the focal plane temperature exceeded the maximum operating value of 4.3° K for the Ge:xx arrays about 20% of the data acquisition time. Another 30% of the time the temperature was above 3.9° K, the point at which the Ge:xx array have responsitivities degraded by about a factor of two.

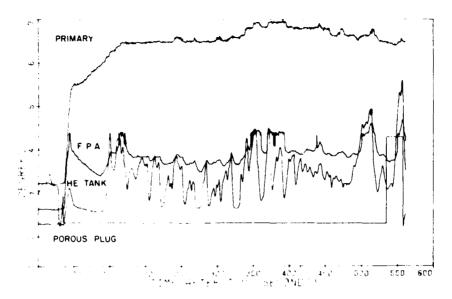


Figure 8. Temperature Profile During Flight. The aperture monitor is at the front end of the inner radiation shield; Blade 2 is about 4 cm from the front end of the inner radiation shield; primary is on the back of the primary mirror; He tank is on the cooling ring on the bottom of the helium dewar

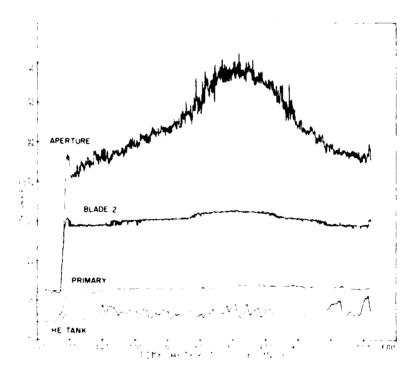


Figure 9. Temperature Profile During Flight. The F. P. A. monitor is in the middle on the front surface of the Ge:Ga array

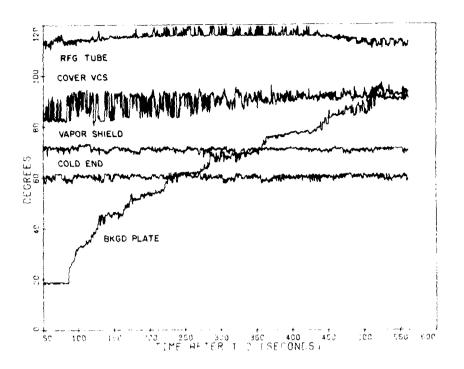


Figure 10. Temperature Profile During Flight. Background plate monitor is on the back surface of the center of the background plate. Cold end is the cooling post to which the vapor shield is tied; vapor shield is several om from the end of the vapor shield; cover VCS is in the center of the cover vapor shield; Rfg tube is the outer cooling station

The in-flight performance of the detectors is graphically depicted in Figures 11, 12, 13 and 14 which show the root mean square (rms) values of the noise for the detectors in the 17-23 μ m, 24-30 μ m, 65-117 μ m, and 34-50 μ m bands respectively. The noise was smoothed over an interval of 0.72 sec. The elevated noise in the Sitxx bands (Figures 11 and 12) occupies, at most, 10% of the data acquisition time and is due almost entirely to particulate contamination. Except for the beginning of data acquisition when the background may be increased by outgassing from the payload and the periods of contamination, the noise levels for the silicon arrays are constant. Thus, the off-axis rejection of the instrument was sufficiently high to maintain preamplifier noise limited performance on these detectors throughout the entire flight.

The noise performance of the Ge:Ga detectors in Figure 13 show several effects. The brief periods of contamination show up at the same time they were observed in the silicon arrays. The general trend in noise follows the temperature of the focal plane array. The times when the focal plane array temperature was greater than 4°K (150-170 sec, 350-360 sec, 370-395 sec, 490-510 sec) are also times when the noise is highest. This correlation is best seen by comparing detector 13 in Figure 13 with the focal plane array temperature profile in Figure 9. The times when the noise falls rapidly to a value near zero followed by an equally rapid increase are times when the detector temperatures were at the operating limit and the detector-preamplifier is either locked up or turned off.

The porous plug and helium tank temperature plus the helium tank pressure indicate that super-fluid helium was successfully contained in the dewar until $T+535~{\rm sec.}$ The super-fluid could have been maintained longer under this thermal load if a porous plug of larger surface area was used to allow a higher flow rate for the vapor. The super-fluid helium did wet the walls of the dewar as anticipated. Fully half the flight returned high quality data in the long wavelength arrays, especially the 100 μ m array of Ge:Ga detectors (see Figure 13). As complete redundancy was planned for these arrays, a survey with good sensitivity was performed over the area scanned with degraded confirming observations.

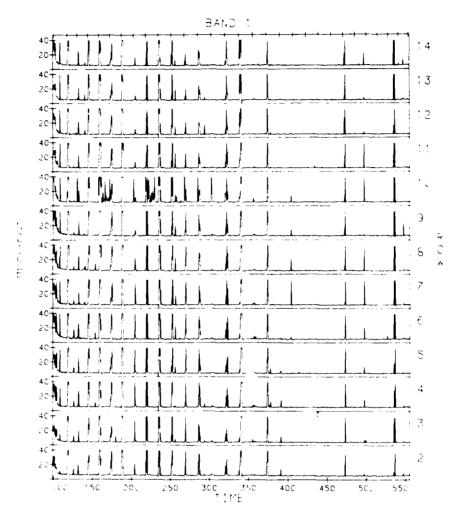


Figure 11. RMS Noise for the 20 $\mu\,\mathrm{mChannels}$ During Data Acquisition

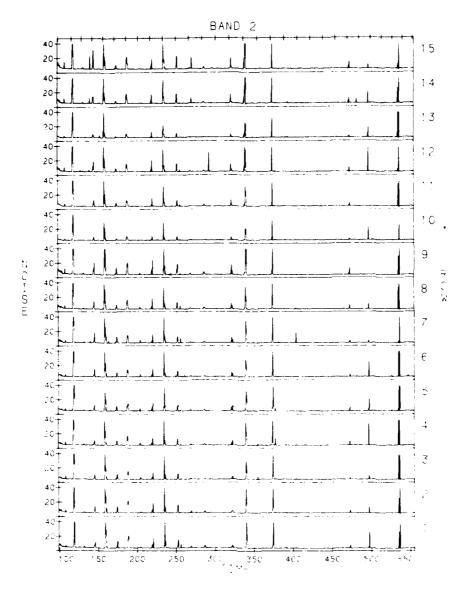


Figure 12. RMS Noise for the 27 $\mu\,\mathrm{m}$ Channels During Data Acquisition

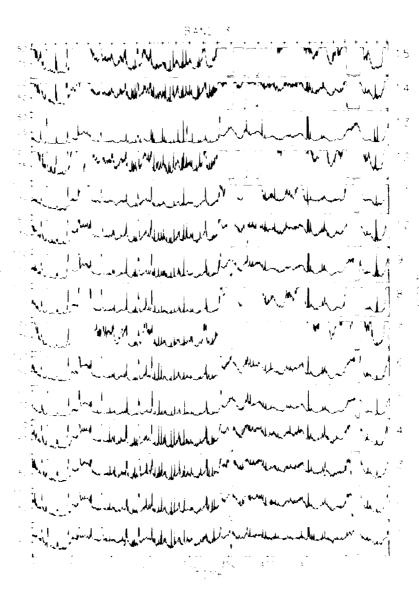


Figure 13. RMS Noise for the 94 μ mChannels During Data Acquisition

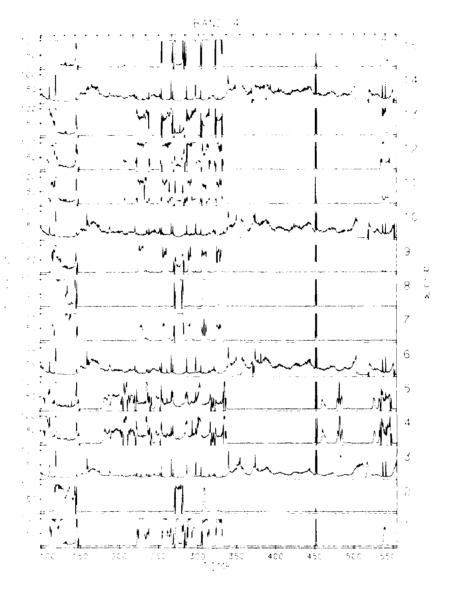


Figure 14. RMS Noise for the 40 μ mChannels During Data Acquisition

5. THE DATA

Examples of various aspects of the data during the flight are shown in Figures 15 through 19. The detection of NGC 2170 (= AFGL 877) is shown in the center of Figure 15, NGC 2183 (= AFGL 890S) and NGC 2071 (= AFGL 818) in Figure 16. The high pass filtering in the signal processing electronics produces a negative undershoot which follows the Positive signal from a source. A first order zero (RC differentiator) with a characteristic frequency of 10 Hz is used for the accoupling. The signal should asymmetrically recover to zero for such a filter. The positive overshoot in Figure 15 for the top trace is due to the signal saturating the electronics and subsequent memory loss of the signal train. The objects in Figures 15 and 16 are somewhat extended but are obviously quite cold. The data in Figures 15 and 16 are different traces taken at about the same time when the focal plane temperature was about 3, 9°K. Note the noise levels are different for the 100 μm detectors in these figures.

Examples of optical contamination are shown in Figures 17 and 18. A near field dust particle would produce a doughnut shaped out-of-focus image ¹² for the Gregorian optical system with its central observation. A detector scanning the center of the image produces a characteristic double peaked signal as seen in Figure 17. If the scan is away from the image hole produced by the central obscuration, the detector sees an extended source of constant brightness. The ac coupling in the electronics produces an extended signal as the leading edge of the image is detected. This is followed by a gradual decay to zero as the filter (differentiator) takes out the low frequency background. A negative signal occurs when the detector moves off the image as seen in Figure 18.

Figure 19 contains the signature of Saturn. At this time the focal plane temperature is 4.4° K. The resistance of the Ge:Ga detectors has dropped below the value of the load resistor and the bias seen by the detector through the transimpedance amplifier is reversed; thus the signals are negative. The Ge:Be detector on the bottom trace has completely turned off. Although the Ge:Be detector on the top trace is still responsive the temperature variation on the focal plane produces a large amplitude base line drift.

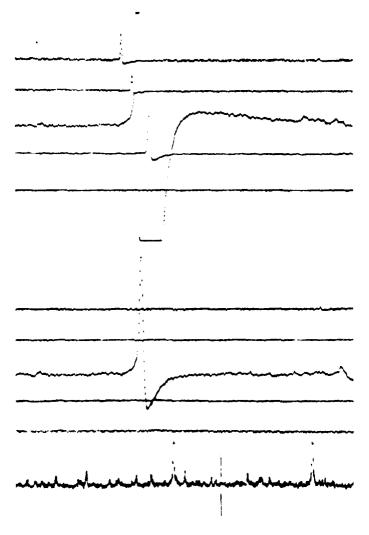


Figure 15. Transit and Signals From NGC 2170. The detectors are arranged sequentially in the order shown in Figure 3; 20, 27, 90, 40 and 11 μ m respectively. The staggered output is the time delay due to the offset of the individual detectors in the focal plane.

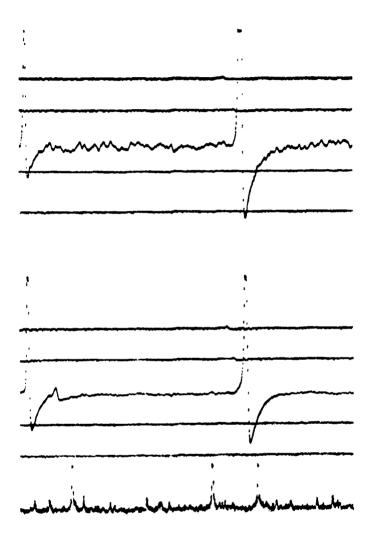
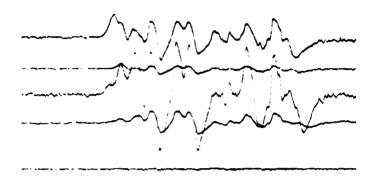
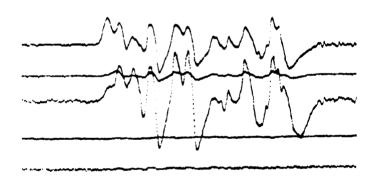


Figure 16. Transit and Signals From NGC 2183 and $217\,1$





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Figure 17. Signals From Optical Contamination. The characteristics double humped signature due to the out-of-focus image from the Gregorian optical system is evident



Figure 18. Response From an Extended Source of Nearly Constant Brightness

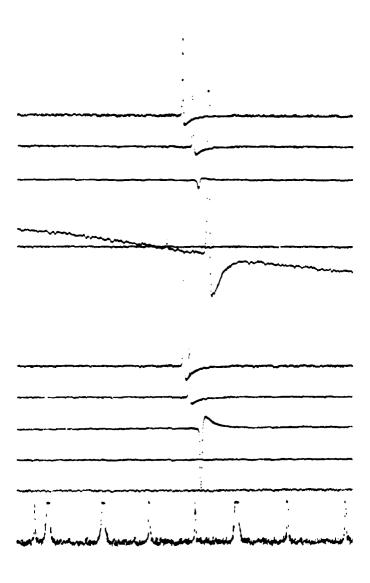


Figure 19. Signals From Saturn. The negative signals on the 11 $\mu\,\mathrm{m}$ detectors are due to bias reversal at the elevated focal plane temperatures

6. DATA REDUCTION - CALIBRATION

The in-flight calibration was based on the observations listed in the "Catalog of Infrared Observations" (CIO) 14 augmented by measurements of Grasdalen et al. New and Merrill, and Rudy et al. $^{15,\ 16,\ 17,\ 18}$ Measurements which exhibit, or are suspected of having, a beam size dependancy were rejected. The calibration sources for the 20- μ m band were selected from those remaining listings which had a measurement between 18 and 23 μ m. The observations were converted to radiance then scaled to the FIRSSE reference wavelength (20.3 μ m), by a $\lambda^{3,\ 95}$ power law. Multiple observations on a given source were averaged, and the amplitude of variation is noted. The same procedure is used for selecting the calibration sources and reference radiances for the 27.3- μ m band, except that the wavelength selection criterion was 20 < λ < 35 μ m.

The calibration objects in each color are associated with the FIRSSE detections by positional agreement. A weighted linear least squares regression with fixed intercept of zero is calculated for each detector channel. The calibration radiance values are given weights according to an estimate of the photometric quality of the observation and the amplitude of variability. Measurements are rejected if they deviate more than two standard deviations from the fit except if the FIRSSE detection falls in the overlap region of an adjacent detector. These measurements are rejected if they are of more than one sigma deviation.

Eight sources on the average, were used to calibrate each of the 20 μ m detectors. The 27.3 μ m calibration was not as straightforward since very few sources in the CIO meet the criteria for calibration objects at this wavelength. Further, most of the CIO measurements which qualify are at wavelengths shorter than 27.3 μ m and assuming a zero color difference will underestimate fluxes from sources with circumstellar emission. Five asteroids (2 Pallas, 8 Flora, 15 Eunomia, 54 Alexandra and 704 Internamnia) were used in the calibration. The color temperature of these objects were derived from the 10 and 20 μ m photometry by Morrison. The 27- μ m fluxes for the asteroids are extrapolated by scaling the color temperature derived from the 10 and 20 μ m photometry by the sun to asteroid distances at launch epoch and the time of the ground based observations then scaling the radiance by the earth to asteroid differences. Where comparisons could be made no significant differences were found between the responsitivies derived from the CIO sources and the asteroids.

⁽Due to the large number of references cited above, they will not be listed here. See References, page 51.)

Even with the asteroid observations not enough sources were available to call brate each of the 27- μ m detector channels separately. Responsitivities scaled from the NOSC measurements were also included. The final calibration for each detector were averages of the scaled NOSC values and the CIO sources. Thus, the greater the number of CIO objects the heavier the calibration is weighted with celestial sources. In general, the resulting responsitivities agree with the laboratory measurements by NOSC and SBRC. The minimum flux for a source used in the calibration is about 10⁻¹⁷ W cm⁻² μ m⁻¹ with the majority of objects 5 to 10 times brighter. Most of the scatter in the regressions are due to the intrinsic variability in many of the sources used in the calibration.

The calibration of the two long wavelength bands was more complicated. There are very few valid standards at these wavelengths, and most objects have pronounced beam size flux dependencies. Further, the detector responses changed as a function of focal plane temperature. The post flight calibrations including varying the focal plane temperature between 3.2 and 4.5 K in steps of 0.05 K and recording the amplitude of the response of each detector to the internal stumulator. This calibration is used to correct the temperature dependence of the in-flight instantaneous response to values normalized to those at 3, 2 K. Next it was assumed that the internal stimulators uniformly illuminate the Ge:Ga and Ge:Be arrays located in the middle of the focal plane. The detector to detector relative response in each of these arrays was determined from the response to the stimulator at $3.2^{\circ}\,\mathrm{K}$. The calibration for the $94\gamma\mu\mathrm{m}$ array is the relative response scaled by an average of five objects used as standards at these wavelengths. AFGL 618 and AFGL 915 were extrapolated along the spectral distribution defined by published photometry at 33 and 53 μ m, $^{20,\,21}$ OH 0739-618, by 33 and 73 μ m photometry, 19 AFGL 490 by the 50 and 100 μ m photometry. ^{19, 22} Finally, the 30 μ m fluxes in Gazari et al¹⁴ for α Ori were extrapolated to 93 μ m, assuming a λ -3.95 power law. The band averaged responsivities of the 40-\$\mu\$m array was scaled from the averaged in-flight response of the 27-μm array by the ratio of the array response determined at SBRC. Uncertainties in the calibration are estimated to be 10 to 15 percent at $20~\mu\,\mathrm{m}$, -15 to 20 percent at $27~\mu\,\mathrm{m}$ and about 40 percent at the two longest wavelengths.

Kleinmann, S.G., Sargent, D.G., Mosley, H., Harper, D.A., Lowenstein, R.F., Telesco, C.M., and Thronson, H.A. (1978) Astron. Astrophys. 65, 139.

Westbrook, W. E., Becklin, E. E., Merrill, K. M., Neugebauer, G., Schmidt, M., Willner, S. P., and Wynn-Williams, C.G. (1975) Observations of an isolated compact infrared source in Perseus, Astrophys. J. 207:407.

Harvey, P. M., Campbell, M. F., Hoffman, W. F., Thronson, H. A., and Gatley, I. (1979) Infrared observations of NGC 2074 (IRS) and AFG1, 490; Two low luminosity young stars, Astrophys. J. 220,000.

7. DATA REDUCTION

The data reduction procedures are schematically shown in Figures 20, 21 and 22. The signals generated by the background as the detector sweeps across the sky are amplified and band limited. The high frequencies are limited by a low bass filter which is a two pole RC filter with a characteristic frequency of the inverse of twice the dwell time. These values are 250 Hz for the silicon arrays and 180 Hz for the Ge arrays. Thus, each color has a different upper band limit set by the various detector widths at a linear scan rate of 20 deg sec⁻¹. Low frequency signals due to off-axis response are attenuated by a single RC high pass filter set at 10 Hz. The signal is sampled and digitized by a pulse code modulation (PCM) unit. Gains for the amplifiers were set in the laboratory such that the rms noise is about one digitization level of the PCM unit.

As seen in Figure 20, the data is telemetered to the ground as it is gathered. On the ground, the PCM stream is recorded on analog magnetic tape and, in parallel, decommutated, converted from digital to analog and displayed on paper strip charts for quick look analysis. Post flight processing includes decommutating the analog tapes and packing the PCM digital data stream on digital computer tapes.

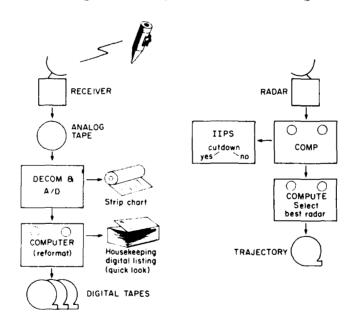


Figure 20. Data Acquisition for the Experiment

These tapes constitute the raw data for the experiment. Also, engineering conformance of the experiment, for example, sensor temperature, is listed. Radio tracking during the flight provides a trajectory.

The digital tapes are processed to extract potential source signals and to calculate sensor aspect of azimuth and zenith angle with respect to the pole star as a function of time. The aspect is used to assign position to each potential source. Detections in more than one color are combined by position coincidence. Assocrations are made with known or suspected bright IR sources, asteroids and near earth satellites. Associations with sources in the CIO provide a list for photometric calibration. Sources which were confirmed by rescan are given a higher weight, and then a more stringent selection criterion is used to generate the final source list. This procedure is detailed in Figure 21.

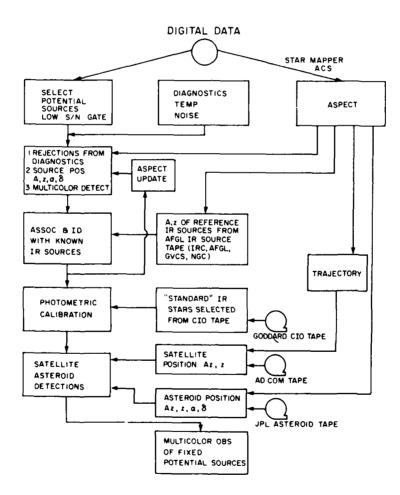


Figure 21. Flow Chart for Reduction of the Data and Association With Known Sources

A more detailed flow chart on selection of sources from the raw data stream is given in Figure 22. The central point is that two selection criteria are used in parallel. An average and rms noise level is calculated from the raw data. A potential source is selected if the signal exceeds three times the noise level above the average. This will detect objects which range from point sources to extended objects about a degree across. How large an extended source depends on the spatial intensity distribution, scan rate and the high pass filter. Reference to Figures 15 through 19 show that this procedure does not have good resolution downstream of large signals.

The data stream is also filtered by comparing the signal to the output two detector widths on either side of it. The result is convolved with the idealized filtered response to a point source. Then, a potential source is selected if the instantaneous signal is greater than three times the rms level of the noise and the cross correlation coefficient is determined. This routine strongly emphasizes the detection of point sources.

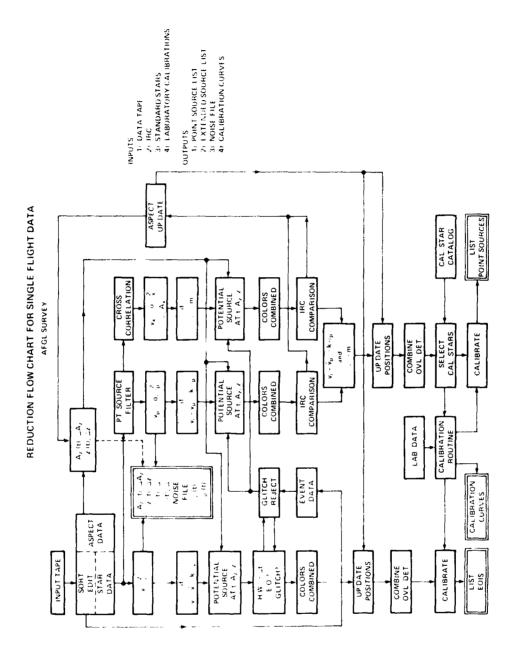


Figure 22. Detailed Flow Chart of Reduction Procedures for Obtaining a List of Sources (courtesy of R.G. Walker)

8. THE FIRSSE LONG WAVELENGTH CATALOG

Table 2 catalogs the FIRSSE long wavelength observations. The right ascension and declination for 1950 epoch is given in columns 1 and 2 and their respective errors in columns 3 and 4. The galactic longitude and latitude are listed in columns 5 and 6 respectively. The 20, 27, 40 and 94 μ m fluxes are given in the next four columns in terms of Janskys (1 Jy = 10^{-26} W m⁻² Hz⁻¹). Associations of the source with other cataloged objects are given in column 11 while comments on the source are listed in the final column. Comments consist on whether the object is suspected (EO?) or measured to be extended (EO) and confirmed by rescan (R).

The thermal variations of the focal plane during the experiment produced considerable problems in the 40 $\mu\,m$ band. The fluxes in these bands are indicative only.

The catalog contains 295 sources, the majority of which are associated either with optical HII regions or luminous stars embedded in dust clouds of circumstellar dust cells. Except for Mars and Jupiter, which are not included in the catalog, these sources comprise the list of 48 objects brighter than 1000 Jy at 93 μ m. At the fainter levels stars begin to contribute to the list. In addition to the objects such as T Tau, VY CMa and U Mon which are associated with dust, the brighter photospheric radiators (α Ori, R Aur, α Boo and RX Boo) were detected. It should be noted that the effective wavelength of the 93- μ m band shifts to about 74 μ m if a λ^{-4} source function is convolved with the spectral response. Thus, the fluxes for photospheric radiators in the catalog are about a factor of two larger than they should be at 93 μ m

 ${\cal A}$ -stionally, the catalog contains three planetary nebulae and eight galaxies. The galaxies are

NGC 2146	Spiral (Type Sbc pec)	NGC 4666	Spiral (Type Sc)
NGC 4038	Seyfert	NGC 4736 (M 94)	Spiral (Type Sb)
NGC 4254 (M99)	Spiral (Type Sc)	NGC 5023	Marginal Detection
NGC 4631	Spiral (Type Sc)	NGC 4631	Spiral (Type Sc)

All of these are bright ($M_{pg} < 11.5$).

The sources observed at 93 μ m are plotted on an Aitoff equal area all sky projection in Figure 23. The heavy lines define the boundary of the survey, the dashed line the galactic plane.

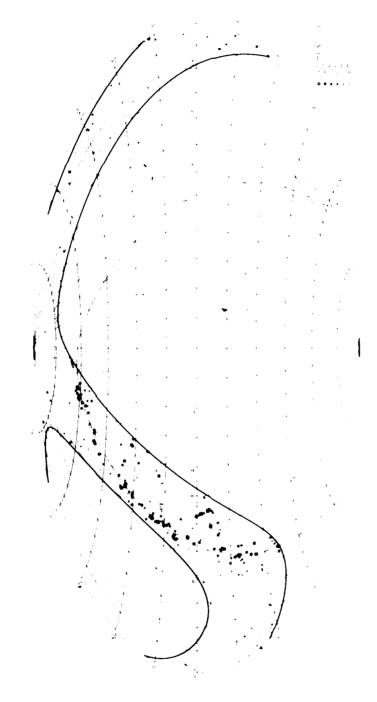


Figure 23. Aitoff Projection of the FIRSSE Coverage and Sources Detected at .3 µm

Table 2. Table of Observations

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Table 2. Table of Observations (Contd)

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Table 2. Table of Observations (Contd)

				
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$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	Associations	A FG1, 4470S	Sharp, 241		NGC 2149		NGC 2170, AFGL 877			Sharp, 247	-		Sharp, 252		Ef Ori, Sharp, 270			NGC 2183, AFGL 890S		Sharp, 259					NC:C: 2146		Sharp, 257, AFG1, 896			Sharp, 258	201
0 ¹¹³ gs ³ +75*43;6 11 ⁸ 1517 138° 24° 65 46 46 46 475 118 118 4 4 75 65 47 6 46 48 49 15.3 2 1.4 181 4 4 75 65 41 118 4 15 41 181 4 4 75 65 41 118 4 15 41 181 4 4 75 65 41 118 4 15 41 181 4 4 75 65 41 181 4 181 4 4 75 65 41 181 4 181 4 4 75 65 41 181 18 4 75 65 65 41 14.0 10 4.3 189 0 0 117 180 180 6 5 5 5 5 113.0 11 5.3 189 1 118 152 5 5 5 5 113.0 11 5.3 189 1 118 152 5 5 5 5 5 115 41.5 5 1.9 184 1 18 182 6 5 5 6 5 6 115 41.5 5 1.9 184 1 18 182 6 6 7 7 22 112 40.4 1 1 1 4.4 189 1 1 148 132 6 7 12 14.1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	F(93)	49	1994	456	328	9 2	> 18,825	724	1218	-2284	306	> 1307	> 1876	108	493	7.1	385	3278	7.23	46	87	126	110	141	86	218	.3639	49	297	236	
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Table 2. Table of Observations (Contd)

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Associations	NGC 2195					Sharp.			Sharp, 266					/ 477 Mon				V540 Mon, C 2167, AFG1, 9518	VIon		SVS 102513, NGC 2245	V490 Mon, NGC 2247			AFG1, 961				CY Mon	R Mon, NGC 2261
F(93)	512	-2926	137	509	3.48	544	5;2 62	488	360	99	7	211	159	25	7.5	820	238	163	#8 8	1615	13.1	165	7	1331	4015	123	580	85	58	83
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Table 2. Table of Observations (Contd)

RA(1950)	Dec(1950)	EA	ED	1	þ	F(20)	F(27)	F(40)	F(93)	Associations	Comments	ents
6 ^{h37^m12⁸ 6 38 0}	+10*40;9	13 ⁸	3;7 1.0	202°	2 2	34	7.2		7.3 1.188	V425 Mon, NGC 2264, AFGL 4519S	<u>Ş</u>	¥
6 28 10	+10 39.3	900	1.7	202	ကဂ				168	1000 N	<u>S</u> S	= =
9 38 30	+ 9 33.4	: 61	9.0	203	1 21	27.1	322	832	1824	CV Mon. AFGL 989	<u> </u>	: =
6 41 19	1 4.8	2	0.6	213	. 2	96	174		856			×
6 42 59	-16 39.3	10	2.1	227	- 9	40				a CMa, AFGI, 1007		×
6 44 15	+ 1 20.5	10	2.3	211	0 -	35	949		1565	V507 Mon, NGC 2282		×
6 50 0	+ 8 28.7	ÇJ	0.5	506	4	559	145		51	GN Mon, AFGL 1028		~
6 55 52	-13 58,3	15	2.7	556	. 5	346	260		18			
	+ 3 39.1	10		211	က	35			23			
		2	5.0	221	- 2	108	199		269	NGC 2316		~
		6	1.6	224	. 3	56		481	1037	Sharp, 293		~
7 1 21		က	9.0	225	دی	17.6	178		373	Z CMa, AFGI, 1059	S	×
		4	0,8	224	?	61	110		316	NGC 2327		×
7		٣	0.5	224		53	87	366	550	SVS 102541	2	×
~		?	0.4	225	€.	09	142		- 1448	Sharp, 297	FO.	~
9		6	1.5	225	-	38	7.1		193			~
~		2	6.0	232	- 1	63	58		531	Sharp, 301	C:	~
6		7	0.7	233	ū	6.4	29		86			~
	-20 11.0	2	6.0	233	ıc.	7.1	58		51	AFG1, 1085	53	~
		15	2.7	224	-	33			258	Sharp, 294	:. C:	÷
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			9.0	239	- 5	1333	7260	6652	1406	VY Cma, AFGL 1111	2	~
		18	ε. 4.	233	0				7.		EC	
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7 27 58	-18 28.6	ഹ	ъ: О	234	0 -	138	257		1001	RCW 8	2	~
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		4	0.7	526	7	2.2	61		48	U Mon		<u>-</u> ≃

Table 2. Table of Observations (Contd)

Page m35 -1734; 6 16 ³ 215 233 *** 0** 28 518 RO HO PD RD 7 29 40 -1734; 6 16 7.33 1.6 51.4 10 7.23 0 2.8 58 875 19.4 RD	RA(1950)	Dec(1950)	ΕA	ED	1	٩	F(20)	F(27)	F(40)	F(93)	Associations	Comments	ents
40 -19 44 6.0 28 5.8 5.18 CC 240°** EO 44 -25 3.4 1.1 2.3 1.1 2.3 1.1 2.3 1.1 2.3 1.1 2.3 1.1 2.3 1.1 2.3 1.1 2.3 1.1 2.3 1.1 2.3 1.1 2.3 1.1 2.3 1.2 401 <th>m_{35}^{s}</th> <th>34.</th> <th>16.5</th> <th></th> <th>233</th> <th>.0</th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th>80</th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th>	m_{35}^{s}	34.	16.5		233	.0				80			
41 23 11 260 875 1944 NGC 240** EO 44 21 56 11 14 233 1 14 237 1 26 37 1 34 86 461 462 461 462 461 462 463 463 464 461 473 462 473 4	40	14.	4		235	0	28	58		518		EO	~
14 22 3.5 7 1.1 237 -1 34 83 914 20 22 16.3 16.3 -1 40 40 40 21 6.3 16.3 17 6.4 40 40 40 40 22 16.3 16.3 17 6.4 70.7 6.4 80 40 22 18 1.3 2.4 6 1.24 70.7 6.48 80 40 22 18 1.3 2.44 8 1.24 70.7 6.48 80 40 52 1.3 2.47 6 2.47 6 6.8 4.42 406 40 1.5 2.2 2.3 2.37 2.4 4.42 406 40 40 1.6 2.3 2.36 2.3 2.4 4.4 406 406 40 40 1.6 2.3 2.36 2.4 4.4	21	51.	01		233		117	569	875	- 1934	NGC 2409	9	: ≃
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Table 2. Table of Observations (Contd)

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Associations	NGC 2579									V Hya, AFGI, 1439	R Crt, AFGL 1450										SVS 1793	NGC 4038						
F(93)	> 1435	94	734	99	2. 4. C. 4.	151	62	138		9	39	137	22	56	44	49	28	21	38		17	28	467	455	92	370	116	120
F(40)									411	7 14					325	1213	1009											
F(27)	825								99	291	202				160	447		200			88		4280	3203				
F(20)	467									541	391			26		319		62			20		5682	3745				
م	•	9	~ 0	0 0	5 6	37	37	24	25	34	37	31	32	35	62	62	61	33	39	38	36	42	35	49	7.5	7.5	75	48
-	255	249	256	25.1	235	135	135	569	27 1	569	569	282	282	281	265	265	566	586	285	286	287	287	290	583	256	256	256	589
ED	::	1.6	2.7	 4	6.0	5.5	5.7	2.0	1.4	1.4	1.5	2.9	2.9	2.0	1.7	4.0	3.3	2.9	3.0	3.0	1.6	3.1	9.8	3.6	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.8
EA	213	11	2 2	1 2	: 2	12	11	11	12	11	11	91	16	1	~	17	14	12	15	15	œ	15	4	18	Ξ	11	7	18
1950)	4: 1	9.5	3.5		26.2	51,7	59, 1	48.8	51, 1	59.2	4. 1	12.8	33. 1	16.0	15.4	12.9	39.6	27.4	56.9	37.9	52, 2	34.8	æ 3	45. 1	51.6	8. 8	58.0	54.9
Dec(1950)				22.					-28										-21									
950)	38	13	900	200	; ~	6	က	စ	26	12	9	96	6	52	26	32	36	27	27	92	21	18	11	21	33	21	34	36
RA(1950)	8 ^h 19 ^m	2		2 2	; m	53	22	31	34										-	1 50								
	w	~ ·		<i>-</i> 4	- 07	ری	٥,	Ξ	2	<u> </u>	Ξ	~	=	_		_	_	_	77	_	_	_	=	=	#		=	=

Table 2. Table of Observations (Contd)

Comments			æ		E CE	2	1	EO.	02	7		9.5		: 2	=			0.3	(N:1				;	~
Associations	NGC 4254	BK Vir, AFGL 1554 A EVY - 406 15	AFCIL 48545 NGC 4631			NGC 4736			NGC 5023	VCC 5055			or 1800. A FC.1 1693	R × BOO A FC1 1706				SVS 101623	NGC 6543				GH Ceo APGI 2757	
F(93)	67	en 4	7.7	80	109	107	87	386	37.1	8	1433	Ξ	53	25	425		5 6	42.5	86	105	3 5	2. ~:		
F(40)																							207.5	
F(27)		56			63								83	224					117					
F(20)		195									15	187	197	732	20		36		69				39	
م (7.5	58	84	22	25	9.	54	54	73	7.4	6.5	59	69	69	62	9†	40	36	30	27	22	17	19	
1	27.0	297	143	125	301	123	308	308	110	106	113	106	15	34	43	91	66	96	96	100	115	109	113	
ЕП	ი. ი.		3.5	6.8	2,5	1. 9	3, 5	3,8	6, 1	5.7	7,3	9.2	2,9		4, 2	7.9	7,2	10.0	7.7	8.3	5,3	2,5	1.6	
EA	12	o E	ıo	10	10	Ç1	13	15	∞	9	8	4	[~	က	9	o,	7	14	14	15	17	13	12	
Dec(1950)	+14•42:8									17.	36.	+56 8.7	25.	56.	46.	56.	29.	Ξ	38.		+81 29.3			
)50)	ж ₈ ш	13	34	9	24	35	52	27	- 13			54								-		46		
RA(1950)	12 ^h 16 ^m	12 36	12 39	12 40	12 42	12 48	13 0	13	13 10	13 13											21 10			

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